

LETHBRIDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

SOUVENIR BOOKLET

1950

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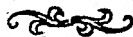
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Souvenir Booklet



Lethbridge Public Schools 1950

Issued on the occasion of the

FORMAL OPENING

« of the »

LETHBRIDGE COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE

Wednesday, November 22nd, 1950

Lethbridge, Alberta

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Lethbridge Public Schools 1950

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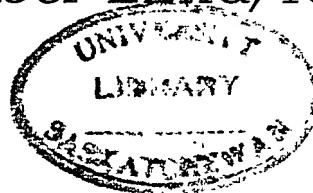
FORMAL OPENING

« of the »

LETHBRIDGE COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE

104073

Wednesday, November 22nd, 1950



Lethbridge, Alberta

Programme
OF THE
Official Opening
OF THE
Lethbridge Collegiate Institute

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 22nd, 1950

AT 2.15 P.M.

1. O Canada.
2. Invocation Reverend Canon Leslie L. Grant
President, Ministerial Association.
3. Chairman's Address and Introduction of other School Board Members G. C. Paterson, K.C.
(G. F. Wilson, Chairman; Mrs. R. M. Glover; Dr. A. A. Haig, F.R.C.S. (Edin), Lt.-Col. G. S. Brown, M.E.I.C.)
4. Introduction of Guests A. B. Hogg, K.C.
5. Congratulatory Messages from Early Trustees Brigadier-General J. S. Stewart
6. Girls' Chorus Conducted by Mrs. P. Cull
7. Address W. E. Frame, M.A., Chief Superintendent of Schools for Alberta
Introduced by Senator W. A. Buchanan.
8. Announcement re Souvenir Booklet Mrs. R. M. Glover
(Edited by L. H. Bussard, M.A., M.Ed., Assistant Superintendent of Schools)
9. Presentation of Keys to Principal D. S. A. Kyle, B.A., B.Ed., G. F. Wilson
Chairman of the Board of Trustees.
10. Expression of Appreciation A. J. Watson, B.A.
Superintendent of Schools.
11. God Save the King.

A Message from the Chairman

The members of the Lethbridge School Board are proud of the new Composite High School. It represents the fulfillment of many years of planning as our objective has been to combine all departments of secondary school, Academic, Technical, Industrial Arts, Home Economics and Commercial within the confines of one building. We have felt that this organization would not only produce more effective results, but would also tend to eliminate any differentiation that might otherwise exist between the several departments of the Composite High School. The final accomplishment of this objective may quite rightly be termed "a dream come true."

JUNIOR HIGH

The completion of the new school has given the School Board an opportunity for the first time in the school history of Lethbridge to organize a Junior High School. Previously, Grades VII and VIII were placed in the public schools with elementary grades, and Grade IX received instruction in the Collegiate. This system did not conform with the requirements of the Department of Education which rightly considers that the age-group of early teen-agers should be organized as a separate unit. It, therefore, has given the School Board considerable satisfaction to be able now to set up a well equipped and well-staffed Junior High School.

As Chairman of the Board for this year I am particularly pleased with the new organization for the vocational classes. Over a period of 17 years of service on the Board, one of my chief interests has been the development of this phase of secondary education. I have felt that these courses, if properly directed, will go far towards giving the students a valuable basic training for their life work, regardless of whether they eventually follow a trade or profession. Up to the present, with the shops so far from the Collegiate, it has been difficult to

co-ordinate the shop and academic subjects. We feel this obstacle has now been eliminated, and that students in vocational classes will have equal opportunities with all others for a full and complete course in secondary education.

MEETING THE PROBLEM

It has been the duty of the School Board, both to provide adequate accommodation for students in all grades, and also to see that a capable and efficient staff is in charge. With the completion of the new Collegiate, and the building of two elementary schools next year, we hope to overcome the crowded conditions that have prevailed in our schools for the past three years particularly.

However, we feel that we have been successful for many years in obtaining capable and efficient teachers. The relationship between the teachers and the School Board has been most co-operative and harmonious and has greatly assisted in maintaining a high standard of success in our schools. The Board has complete confidence in its principals, teachers and supervisors, and we are looking forward to continuing the sound system of education that has already been so well established.

APPRECIATION

I would be remiss in my duty as Chairman of the Board if I did not at this time express to the public school ratepayers of the city our sincere appreciation of the support we have received from them at all times in our effort to set up a sound educational system for Lethbridge. Our plans would have had little effect if they had not received the support and loyal co-operation of the citizens. We wish to express to the ratepayers our grateful appreciation of their confidence in their elected school board members. We trust that the board's planning will receive their approval and endorsement.

GEORGE WILSON.



Lethbridge School Board



Lt.-Col. G. S. Brown, M.E.I.C.; G. F. Wilson, chairman; A. J. Watson, B.A., Superintendent, Secretary-Treasurer; Dr. A. A. Haig, F.R.C.S. (Edin); G. C. Paterson, K.C.; L. H. Bussard, M.A., M.Ed., Assistant Superintendent; George McKillop, A.T.A. Representative, Mrs. R. M. Glover.

A Word from the Editor

The history of a school system reflects the development of a community. As the city of Lethbridge has developed from a frontier coal camp and cattle ranching town, so has the present school system evolved from the one-room school of sixty-four years ago.

The history of our school system is also the story of the thousands of boys and girls who have attended, often unwillingly, the Lethbridge schools. It is the story of the many teachers who have worked faithfully, sometimes without public appreciation, in the vital task of developing good citizens. It is also the story of those school officials and trustees who have planned, often with limited means, to provide the best possible educational facilities for this western community.

To all those people who, since that eventful day in March of 1886, have labored to create the Lethbridge Public School System, this book is dedicated.

L. H. BUSSARD,
Assistant Superintendent.

Looking to the Future

Recently, when the Canadian dollar was freed from all controls and left to find its own value in the world market, one British commentator remarked that "it was a wise and courageous move on the part of wise and courageous men." This is a commentary that can fittingly be applied to the elected members of our School Board who, supported by the enlightened opinion of our public school ratepayers, planned and brought to complete fruition this magnificent building, the New Lethbridge Collegiate Institute. If any evidence is required to indicate the esteem in which education is held by our citizens, this is a positive and concrete answer. It is full and complete proof that Lethbridge has never placed monetary consideration on a higher plane than educational standards.

However, there is no such thing as a final goal in education. While it may seem for the moment that we have attained our desired objective, the rapid development and expansion of this community necessitates the immediate institution of a long-range building program. Our progressive School Board has already taken cognizance of this fact, and has made preparation for the construction of two elementary schools in 1951, which will be followed (we hope) by a new Junior High School in North Lethbridge the following year. This year, also, our School Board authorized the establishment of a modern, fully-equipped Opportunity Classroom, and desires to expand this type of service to include kindergartens and classes for those pupils who have special difficulty in hearing or seeing. Moreover, while it is as yet little more than a vision, there is a growing urge, prompted by our enlightened community leaders, for the establishment of a Junior College which would offer a two-year accredited university program.

While schools are important and indicate in themselves the progressive spirit of a community, it is not

my desire in these brief remarks to utter a panegyric or formal eulogy on buildings alone. The determining factor of success in elementary and secondary education is the quality of the principals and staff employed. I am happy to state that, in my long association with education in this city, I know of no time when our teachers, principals and supervisors enjoyed the confidence of our School Board and parents more than they do at present. I am also confident, that, due to our modern liberalized program of education, our youth are constantly becoming keener and more alert to community and national problems, and will be better prepared to cope with them when their turn comes. Someone has facetiously remarked that in modern school administration the teacher is afraid of the principal, the principal is afraid of the superintendent, the superintendent is afraid of the School Board, the School Board is afraid of the parents, the parents are afraid of the children, but the children are not afraid of anybody. Whether this embodies a grain of truth or not, one thing is certain, we must definitely rely upon our children for the future conduct of society and our national welfare. In their courage and ability to improve both, I am most optimistic.

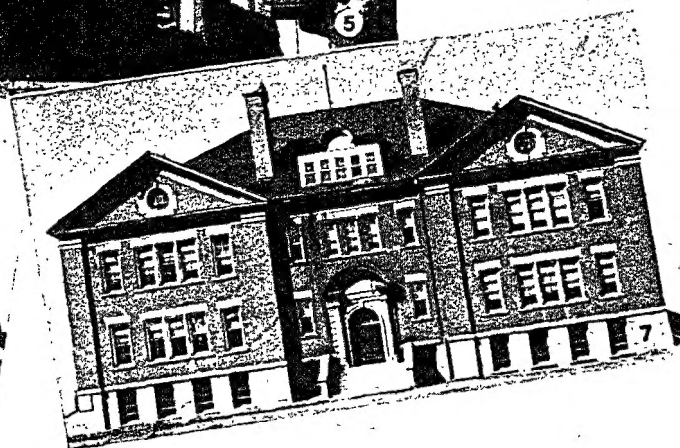
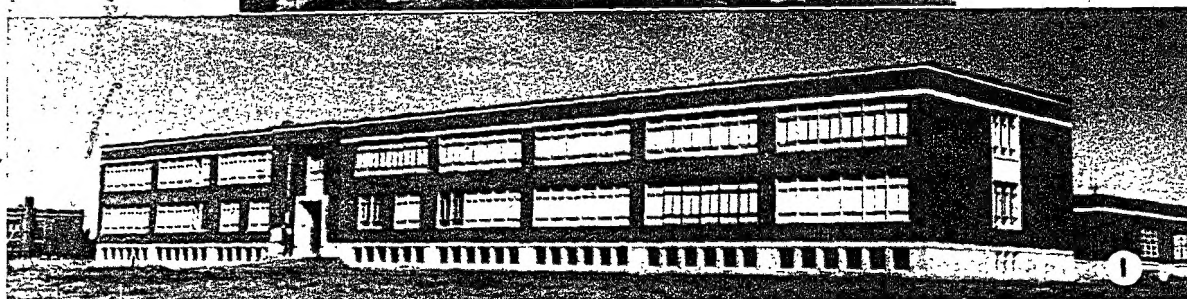
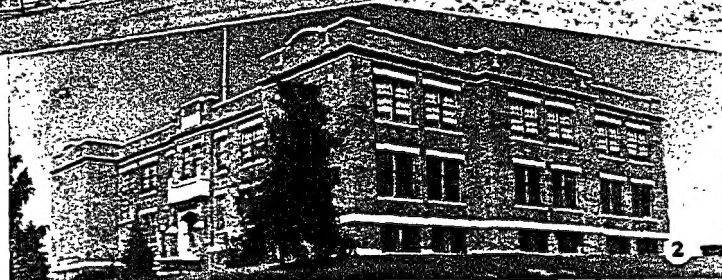
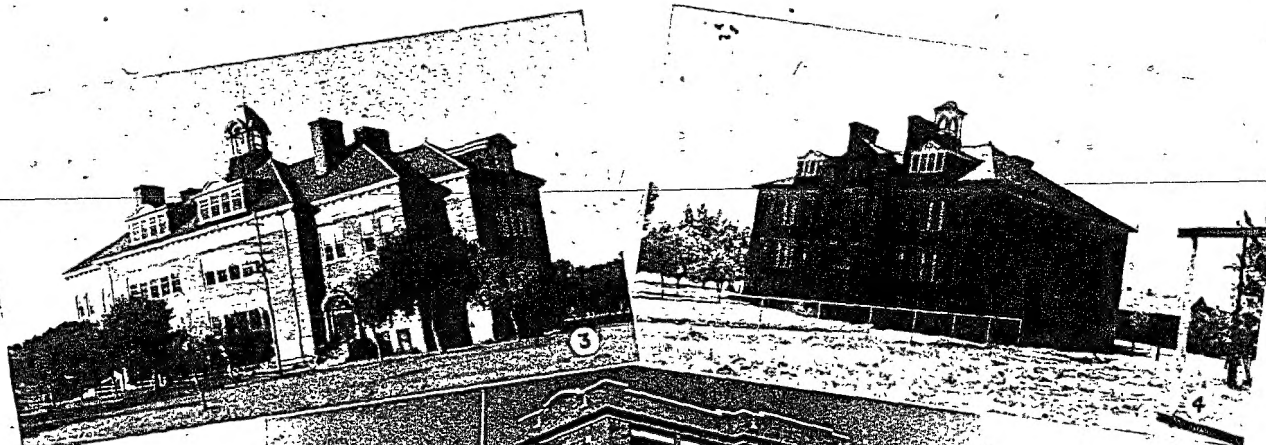
I wish to compliment the editor of this historic pamphlet, Mr. L. H. Bussard, M.A., M.Ed., Assistant Superintendent. He is the one who has laboriously ferretted out all the salient facts and features of School Board history during the past sixty-four years, and has presented them to us in this attractive manner for our information and enjoyment. It is a masterly accomplishment that deserves our commendation.

Sincerely yours,

A. J. WATSON,
Supt. of Schools (1924 - 1950).



Lethbridge Public and High Schools - 1950



1. Collegiate

2. Junior High

3. Central

4. Fleetwood

5. Bowman

6. Westminster

7. Galbraith

A Brief History of the Early Days

On a March evening in 1886, three men: John Craig, William Stafford and H. F. Greenwood, met together as the first school board of Lethbridge, a little coal mining and ranching town on the Belly River in the District of Alberta, North-West Territories.

It was high time something was being done about education. No longer was this the isolated Coal Banks of Nicholas Sheran's day. Fourteen years had passed since that Irish-American adventurer had driven a horizontal shaft into the west river bank about a half mile south of where railway engineers were to erect a high level bridge years later. Gone were the days when one man could supply the bull teams hauling coal to Fort Benton and Fort Macleod. The Galts, financed with English money, had taken over soon after Sheran had met his death assisting a police party in fording the river at Fort Kipp in '82.

Elliott Galt, assistant to the Honorable Edgar Dewdney, Indian Commissioner, had seen the exposures at Coal Banks while inspecting Indian agencies in '79. His father, Sir Alexander Galt, Canadian High Commissioner in London, had been the driving force behind the incorporation of the North Western Coal and Navigation Company in 1882 with Mr. William Lethbridge of London as president. William Stafford of Nova Scotia, mining superintendent, had arrived in '82 by way of Chicago, St. Paul, Bismarck and Fort Benton. By October he had thirty miners sinking horizontal tunnels into the hills in the river bottom. The next year miners were brought in from Nova Scotia and before long two hundred tons of coal were being mined daily. In '83 an attempt was made to have the stern-wheelers Baroness, Alberta and Minnow move 18 or 20 barges loaded with coal down the river to Medicine Hat on the C.P.R. However, during the three summer months when there was sufficient water to operate the steamers, the current was so swift that the barges could not be moved upstream.

After this venture, the Company had built a narrow-gauge railway, the famous "turkey-track", to connect with the C.P.R. at Dunmore Junction near Medicine Hat. The coal from the river bottom was hauled up the hill on an inclined railway until Number One Mine was opened at the top of the river bank (about three hundred yards west of the present C.P.R. round-house).

The first houses, those of Elliott Galt, William Stafford and Captain Bryant, the mining engineer, had been built on the river bottom where a company store and ferry had been constructed. However, after the opening of Number One Mine and the survey of the townsite by C. A. Magrath and Aldous in '85, the town began to move up the hill. The Company built the first residence in the upper town for its accountant, H. F. Greenwood, on a corner lot where nearly seventy years later the Kresge Company was to build a new store. Many miner's homes were built along the present First Avenue, west of Fifth Street. Most of the

business buildings built in '85 were located on Round (Fifth Street) and Ford (Second Avenue) near the railway station.

There was H. Bentley's general store, Thomas Botterill's hardware and grocery store, John Mannock's livery and feed stable, Thomas Kirkham's hardware store, C. F. P. Conybeare's legal office, the Lethbridge House of Messrs. Henderson and Hogg, Climie and Robinson's furniture store, the drugstore and post office which J. D. Higinbotham had recently purchased from E. Walton, Main and Finley's City Meat Market, J. H. Cavanah's general store, I. G. Baker & Company's general store, together with numerous saloons, bakeries, pool halls, restaurants and laundries. Corporal Hodder, in charge of five Mounties, had his office in a tiny white shack just south of the Square which the Galts had reserved for park purposes but which was still being used by stage coaches and bull teams. Most of the lumber for these buildings was supplied by a portable saw mill on the river bottom which sawed logs floated down from the foothills.

The Lethbridge News, edited by "Si" Saunders, stated that the new town had a population of 1,200 by the end of '85. This figure did not include the French-Canadian battalion which had been stationed in the river bottom during ten months of the Rebellion year. There were many children in town who had not been to school since they had left the east. Mrs. Stafford, Mrs. Hill and Mrs. James Perry had arrived with large families in '82 and '83. Several Sunday Schools were in operation, the largest being that of the Presbyterians, taught by John D. Higinbotham, the pioneer druggist, originally from Guelph but more recently of Macleod. During the winter of '85 correspondence had been had with the Territorial Board of Education at Regina and in March the formation of the Lethbridge Protestant Public School District No. 51 was authorized. This Board appointed three men to act as trustees. These men were: Mr. John Craig, who had a cabinet and furniture shop just south of the Square; Mr. William Stafford, the mining superintendent, and Mr. H. F. Greenwood, also of Nova Scotia, who had been the chief accountant for the Hudson's Bay Company at Winnipeg, before accepting the position of chief accountant for the North Western Coal and Navigation Company in '82.

At the first meeting on March 25, Mr. Stafford was elected chairman and Mr. Greenwood, secretary-treasurer. It was resolved that "the Board procure books in town for the use of the school provided they can obtain them for not more than 25 per cent in excess of rates furnished by Charles H. Black of Regina"; "that John Maclean be engaged as school teacher for seven months from April 5th at a salary of \$50.00 per month, provided that his testimonials be approved by Inspector McIntyre," and "that the Board see what arrangements can be made for securing a cottage from the North Western Coal and Navigation Company for school purposes."

Trustees



John Craig—1886-87

H. F. Greenwood—1886-88

William Stafford—1886-87

Rev. Charles McKillop—1887

Robert Niven—1888-90

H. Bentley—1888-90

Dr. F. H. Mewburn—1889-90

W. Colpman—1890-92

H. MacBeth—1890-91, 1899-01, 1907

C. F. P. Conybeare, K.C.—1891

Adam Link—1892-1900

N. T. Macleod—1892-94, 1898

V. W. Dooley—1905-06

W. A. Galliher—1895-96

Robert Ripley—1895-96, 1899-1900

T. McNabb—1895

J. D. Higinbotham—1896-97, 1912-15

Robert Nimmons—1896-97, 1905-06

At the next meeting held on April 10, a cottage at the top of the hill (near the end of the present Second Avenue) was rented from the Company, and G. Cody was instructed to build a porch and to make a black-board and desks. As Mr. MacLean's testimonials were not satisfactory, Mr. B. L. Latimer was appointed with duties to start on April 11th. No record has been kept of the number of pupils who greeted their new teacher on the first day of school, but evidently the accommodation of the small cottage was not sufficient because on July 7th it was unanimously decided at a public meeting to build a new school house. A lot was purchased (immediately north of the Marquis Hotel) and in November, Donald Fraser and Enoch Blythe were authorized to build a two-room building at a cost of \$1,565. The school population grew so rapidly that the second room under Miss Duff was opened in June of '87. Now that things were well under way, Mr. Stafford resigned, and the Reverend Charles McKillop, the pioneer Presbyterian Minister, the famous "fighting parson", because of his opposition to the liquor traffic, was elected. Mr. McKillop took such a keen interest in educational matters, that he was later appointed an inspector of Protestant schools by the Board of Education. In December, Mr. Robert Niven, a master mechanic for the Company, took Mr. Caig's place on the Board; and in January of '88 Mr. H. Bentley, the store proprietor replaced Mr. McKillop.

In March of '89 Dr. F. H. Mewburn, the first resident physician and surgeon, became a member of the Board. Soon after his appointment, an application was made to the Board of Education in Regina for the establishment of a high school branch. In May, George McFarquhar's tender of \$666 for an addition to the school was accepted and the next April, Mr. A. J. Doane became the third teacher. Debenture No. 1 for \$450 and Debenture No. 2 for \$430 were issued to pay for the addition. In October of '89 the school children took part in the reception afforded Lord and Lady Stanley when the Governor-General's party visited Lethbridge.

It was becoming evident that the three-roomed frame building could not provide accommodation for the children of this growing western town. The Alberta Railway and Coal Co., which had absorbed the North Western Coal & Navigation Co., completed its narrow gauge railway to Great Falls, Montana, in '90. This was to open up an entirely new market for coal and cattle. Because of the large land grants given to the Company as subsidies for railway construction, C. A. Magrath and Elliott Galt were able to attract settlers from Eastern Canada and the Middle States with offers of cheap land. Settlers from Utah were coming into the Cardston district.

The Board began planning for expansion in 1890. Alex Moffat acted as returning officer for a \$10,000.00 money by-law in July to build a new school. A record of how each person voted was made in the poll book; 50 persons were in favor of the by-law; 3 were opposed; four remarked that the amount should be \$15,000.00, and one refused to vote. The Confederation Life Assurance Co. bought the the 6½% debentures at par.

The present Central School site was purchased from Mr. Galt, and in September, William Henderson's plans and his tender of \$9,985 for a six-room brick building were accepted.

Many of the Company employees had built residences north of the railway tracks and in April of '91, a delegation requested a school in the North Ward now that there were sixty children living there. The Board acted quickly on this request, a lot east of the present Westminster School and on the opposite side of the avenue was bought, and by November, W. F. Gay had completed the one-room building at a cost of \$1,050. Mr. Rose, the new teacher, had charge of only the junior grades, as the senior pupils continued going to the south side school.

By this time the new Central School was finished. Mr. H. R. Sidley became the headmaster of the Union School and teacher of the high school department. Mr. Latimer was in charge of the entrance class while Miss Janet White and Miss McKilbin taught the junior classes. For some time attendance in the high school was hardly sufficient to obtain the government grant; even by June of '94 the enrolment was only 8. However, just a year later the matter of high school overcrowding came before the Board.

The early '90's was a period of hard times. A series of dry years hit the farmers and ranchers. The Montana coal market had not materialized as new mines had been opened in that state. Lethbridge miners were fortunate to obtain work two days a week during the summer months. The Town Corporation requested the Board to reduce expenses; in 1893 the school requisition was cut to \$4,000. Although some of the citizens wished to close the high school, a public meeting in June of '94 favored the continuance of this department at any price.

There was a succession of principals; Mr. Sidley resigned after two years. Mr. Munro and Mr. K. W. McKenzie stayed only one year. It was not until Mr. W. C. Simmons came in '95 was there any measure of stability in the high school department. The efficiency of Mr. Simmons and Mr. Latimer was recognized by the Board in August of '96 when it tendered its thanks for the most excellent results obtained by their pupils in the recent Territorial Entrance and High School examinations. In 1899, Mr. Simmons resigned to enter law practice at Cardston which later was to lead to the position of Chief Justice of the Trial Division of the Supreme Court of Alberta. Mr. Latimer also resigned. From the 51 applications for principal, Jas. McCaig of Collingwood was selected. W. A. Hamilton of Bruce Rivers was the new teacher of the Entrance class. At this time, Miss Huggins, Miss Morris, Miss McVicar and Miss Davies were also on the staff.

The water and sanitation matter was not neglected; in 1898 the Board directed the secretary to purchase a ten-gallon liquor keg for the North Ward School and have it placed in position. This would be filled twice a week from the Hyssop Bros.' water wagon. In 1901 two good bracket wash stands, with one dozen roller towels and two rollers, soap and two pails were purchased. The caretakers were to have the towels washed when required.



E. J. Hill—1897-98

M. Barford—1898-05

Albert Cotton—1898-99



Thos. Kirkham—1899-02

W. D. L. Hardie—1901-02, 1903-04

John H. Fleetwood—1901-12



J. Reed—1902-03

Malcolm Young—1903-04

Clarence Lowther—1903



Dr. W. S. Galbraith—1904-12

M. Freeman—1907

G. H. Johnston—1906-11



O. D. Austin—1908-11

Dr. J. S. Stewart—1908-12

W. S. Ball—1911



R. P. Wallace—1911-19

E. V. Dooley—1913-14

H. A. McKillop—1913-16

By 1902, Lethbridge had a population of 2,100 and the classrooms were no longer sufficient. Mr. Dooley the architect, was asked to prepare plans for a four-room addition to Central school. A money by-law for \$8,000.00 was passed in August and one year later Wm. Oliver's tender of \$7,966 was accepted. This addition was named the Barford Wing in honor of the senior school board member. When in December of 1904, Jas. McCaig was named as inspector, W. A. Hamilton was appointed principal with Mr. Joseph Morgan as assistant. The new principal's interest in botany soon became evident; for years flower seed was distributed to the pupils each spring and a flower show was held each summer when prizes were given for the best plants. In 1905, Mr. Hamilton recommended that the different classes be taken down to the coulee now that the flowers are opening for the purpose of receiving instruction in botany. Mr. P. Vibert who had been secretary-treasurer since 1892 resigned in 1905; his place was taken by Mr. C. B. Bowman who held a similar position with the town.

By '05 accommodation in the North Ward was again a problem. The original frame building had been partitioned into two rooms but this was not sufficient. Smith Bros. & Wilson started construction of a four-room brick struction during the summer and on January 2nd of 1906 the new north side school, to be known as Westminster, was officially opened. The speakers on this occasion were: Chairman Fleetwood, Robert Nimmons, Rev. J. E. Hughson, Rev. Gordon, Rev. Chivers, Dr. Galbraith and Major Rogers. Pupils under the direction of Principal Hamilton sang Soldiers of the King, the Maple Leaf Forever and the Red, White and Blue. Only the two lower rooms were used at that time; however, when H. G. Long took charge of the school in the fall of 1906 three rooms were in operation.

In December, 1906, Principal Hamilton reported that boring for gas in close proximity to the Central School was inadvisable and was likely to cause some annoyance. The Board requested that the City Council secure some other site. This protest was of little avail as drilling continued until November of 1908 at which time little gas had been found at the 2,000 ft. level.

For some time the Board and Mr. Hamilton had been considering the establishment of a kindergarten. In 1906, a site was obtained immediately to the north of the Central School, and Smith Bros. & Wilson's tender of \$5,297 for a two-roomed frame building was accepted. This kindergarten, the first to be operated by a public school in Alberta, was opened in 1907 under the direction of Miss A. M. Robb. (This building is now still school property but is leased at present as a private residence. It is situated immediately east of Bowman School).

During the years 1906-07-08 Southern Alberta was enjoying a boom which caused people to forget the hard times of the early '90s. In 1899 the Canadian North-West Irrigation Company was organized to bring water from the Old Man River to the fertile but dry land around Lethbridge. In 1900 irrigation water entered Lethbridge and for many years ditches running

down the streets provided moisture for gardens and trees. In 1904 the Alberta Railway and Irrigation Company was formed from the previous companies. Much territory tributary to Lethbridge was put "under the ditch". C. A. Magrath and Elliott Galt had little difficulty in disposing of this land. The W. O. Kerr Company of Minneapolis was filling the Warner country with settlers from the Mid-West. Applicants lined up for days to file on homesteads. Everyone was optimistic and Lethbridge was growing. The 2,926 population of 1906 was to increase to 9,035 by 1911. In January, 1908, Principal Hamilton reported the school population as 602 compared with 374 for January of 1907; an increase of 60 per cent in one year. In 1907 and 1908 plans were prepared for a four-room addition to Westminster, for a new Central School, and for two one-roomed frame schools, the Bailey Street School west of Westminster on 16th Street North and the Courtland Street School (near the present Lethbridge Laundry).

In April of 1909, the new Central School was officially opened by the Hon. A. G. Rutherford, Premier of Alberta and also Minister of Education. This building, which has been designed by Architect Roefson and built by Smith Bros. and Wilson, was fully described with pardonable western enthusiasm in a booklet put out to commemorate the occasion. With the increased accommodation, it was deemed expedient to tear down the original Central School of 1890, leaving only the Barford addition of four rooms which became the official high school. This was razed in the late '20's. In 1909, Smith Bros. & Wilson were given the contract to build the four-room addition to Westminster.

From time to time, interesting bits of school news appeared in the News and Herald. On April 9, 1908, a despatch from Edmonton stated that the three prairie provinces had decided to abolish the vertical system of writing in favor of a sloping system. On June 20, the annual public school flower show was held. On July 8, Miss Dora Nimmons entertained her fellow students of Standard Eight to celebrate the conclusion of examinations. Lethbridge was able to send four students to the first session of the University of Alberta in 1908; two scholarships of \$50 to the University were open to the city students.

In 1910, the administration of the high and public schools was separated: Mr. Hamilton became Supervisor of Public Schools and Mr. D. Andrews of Arthur, Ontario, was appointed principal of the high school; it was now termed the Collegiate Institute.

Early in '10, the Board was again faced with the problem of insufficient accommodation on the south side as houses were being built south of Seventh Avenue. H. W. and W. A. Whiddington drew the plans for an eight-room brick school for the Duff addition (so named because of John Duff who ran cattle and horses there in the early days). In June, the ratepayers approved of the plan by a vote of 58 to 3; in August, the Board accepted Smith Bros. & Wilson's tender, and on Thanksgiving Day, 1911, Fleetwood School was officially opened by the Honorable C. R. Mitchell, Attorney-General and Minister of Education for Alberta.



R. R. Davidson, K.C.—1915-20

Dr. R. B. C. Thompson—1913-14, 1922-25

K. D. Johnson—1916-20



John Scott—1915-20

A. B. Hogg, K.C.—1919-22

George McKay—1917-18



R. A. Smith—1921

J. E. Terrill—1920-23

W. A. Hamilton—1921-24



Dr. J. E. Lovering—1921-24, 1926-33

Rev. Canon Cecil Swanson—1924-27

Jas. Westbrook—1923-35



Mrs. M. McCleneghan—1925-28

Miss Susie Bawden—1925-42

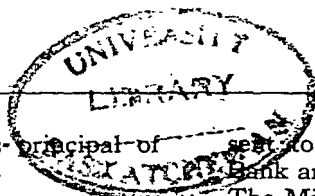
Gladstone Virtue—1929-34



Charles E. Cameron—1929

R. C. Farris—1933-34

D. P. Carlyle—1930-33



Mr. Brandow started his long tenure as principal of the new school.

In March of 1911, the residents of the coal mining town of Hardieville petitioned for a school. The Board planned for a two-room frame school, but until it could be built, the Hardieville children would be picked up by Peck Bros.' van which would leave Threatful's store at 8:30 a.m. for Westminster school. A site at Hardieville was obtained from the Alberta Railway and Irrigation Co. and Watson and Carlson's tender of \$7,416 was accepted in August. The new school was opened in January of '12 with W. E. Frame, later to become Chief Superintendent of Schools for Alberta, in charge.

In August of '11, Mr. Andrews, Collegiate Principal, resigned. J. E. Hodgson of Peterboro, Ontario, accepted the position.

Early in 1912, the Board again started an ambitious building program: by-law No. 14; for the amount of \$140,000 was passed. Whiddington Bros. were asked to draw plans for an eight-room solid brick building on 9th Avenue North and for a brick structure immediately to the north of Central which was to be used for boys' and girls' manual training. Architect Carver was to design a physical culture building on the Westminster grounds.

Superintendent Hamilton planned for services which would place Lethbridge to the fore in education: Miss Byrll Minnions was appointed drawing supervisor; the citizens were informed of the benefits of the Kindergarten department by advertisements in both the News and Herald; Mr. T. B. Kedner, Director of Manual Training for the Calgary Schools was consulted on technical education; Miss Ethel Preston was appointed Household Science teacher; Mr. Bailey of Hamilton, Ontario, was appointed to the Manual Training Department; Miss Lombard became the music teacher; and night classes in manual training were instituted.

In September, 1912, C. B. Bowman, realizing the possibilities in real estate and insurance resigned as secretary-treasurer. His position was taken by J. H. Fleetwood, who had been on the School Board since 1901.

On September 4th, H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, Governor-General of Canada, visited the schools and declared the Manual Training School officially open.

In 1913 Dr. Galbraith officially opened the north-side school which was to bear his name.

The World War which blazed forth in August of '14, immediately halted all expansion of the school system. In view of the financial situation caused by the drastic curtailment of credit throughout the west, both the City Council and School Board were forced into a policy of retrenchment; teachers' salaries were reduced, the positions of building inspector, manual training, domestic science, art and music supervisor were discontinued and in February of '15, Superintendent Hamilton resigned hoping that some of the services which he had worked for since 1904 might be retained. Trustees Higinbotham and McKillop were

sent to Winnipeg to interview officials of the Union Bank and other banks regarding school district finances. The Minister of Education was notified that the schools would have to be closed unless financial assistance could be obtained. However, things were not as black as they seemed, and in January of '17, the city paid off the School Board's debt to the Union Bank and gradually the services which had been discontinued were resumed.

During the four years of war, many of the staff men volunteered for overseas service: W. E. Frame, F. Phillips, K. P. Stewart, Willocks, T. Hamilton, Riches, Davis, Filmer, George McKillop enlisted. Of these Sergeant Phillips was killed in action in France late in 1917. A plaque in the Galbraith School, of which he was principal, commemorates the death of this man.

Those teachers who remained on the staff, did much to further the war effort. The St. John's Ambulance Association was organized; acting on the request of the I.O.D.E., knitting was taught in the schools; school gardens were organized because of the necessity for greater food production, and pupils were encouraged to place their contributions to the Sailors' Fund in the I.O.D.E. boxes. Upon several occasions, the Board noted the generosity of the teachers toward the Patriotic Fund.

When vocational subjects were discontinued in the Manual Training School in early 1915, the Collegiate classes were transferred to that building and the Barford Wing was used for public school grades. In July of 1915, Principal J. E. Hodgson resigned to become an Inspector of Public Schools at Macleod. R. H. Dobson was the new principal. In the departmental examinations of 1916, Aileen Dunham received the highest marks ever obtained in the province to that time. She was later to receive her Doctor of Philosophy degree and to become a university professor in Ohio.

In 1919, Principal Dobson resigned; Dr. Norman Black, Principal of the Regina Collegiate Institute, took over the position of superintendent while Duncan Brown was the new high school principal.

At this time, J. A. Davidson was principal at Central; C. E. Brandow at Fleetwood; H. H. Bruce at Westminster; Miss Birch at Galbraith and E. Filmer at Hardieville.

In 1920, J. E. Hodgson returned to the combined position of Superintendent and Collegiate Principal. Also at this time, two appointments were made of men who were to exert a beneficial influence on the youth of Lethbridge—those of Walter "Billie" Lamb, Attendance Officer and George McKillop as Physical Instructor.

After the war years it became necessary to think of increased accommodation. The Bailey Street school had been sold to the Galt Miners' Library but the Courtland Street school was moved and placed to the north of the old high school. (This building was later sold to the Country Club). However, in 1923, the rate-



J. S. Kirkham—1934-35

D. Clemis—1935-44

A. C. Raworth—1943



H. D. Rood—1937-42

G. T. Cox—1943

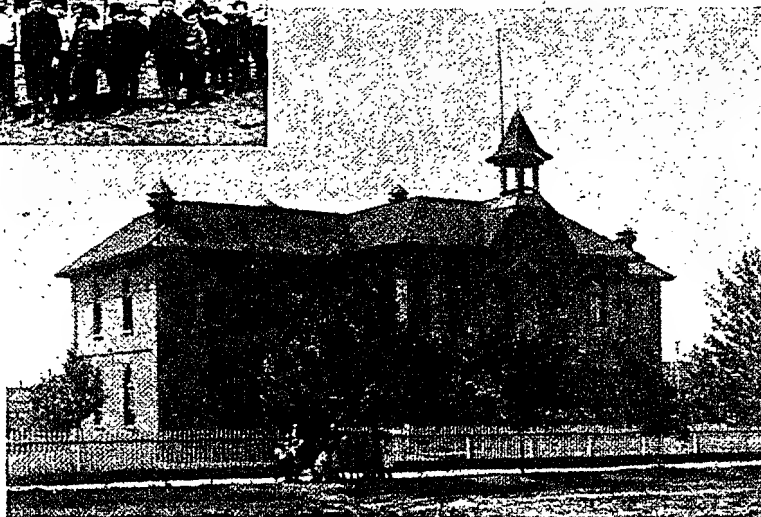
Walter "Billie" Lamb
Attendance Officer—1920-48

Pictures of the following trustees could not be obtained: R. B. Bremner (1892-95), H. Martin (1892-93), John Bruce (1895-96), G. Bremner (1897-98), G. W. Robinson (1903)



First Public School
1887

First Central School
1891 and 1902



payers rejected a money by-law which would have provided for a new high school and a four-room addition to the eight-room Westminster school.

In 1924, Superintendent Hodgson was appointed principal of the Collegiate Institute at Sault Ste. Marie. The Board lost no time in engaging Allan J. Watson as Superintendent of Schools and Principal of the High School. Mr. Watson, an Honours Graduate and Gold Medalist in Classics of Victoria College, University of Toronto, had been in the west for fourteen years serving as public school principal in Calgary, high school principal in Edmonton, and inspector of public and high schools. He had been stationed in the Lethbridge district since 1920 as public school inspector.

In 1925, the electors again defeated a by-law to build a new high school but in 1926, they approved of the four-room addition to Westminster. H. M. Whiddington drew the plans for it, and the tender of Contractor Scanlon was accepted. Late in 1927, a new high school building was approved. E. T. Brown designed a brick structure which after considerable discussion was to be located between 4th and 5th Avenues at 15th Street South. The R.C.M.P. barracks site was the first choice of the Board; however, the Dominion Government would not release this property. Dr. Tory, President of the University of Alberta, Dr. Lovering, Chairman of the Board, and Mayor Hardie officiated at the turning of the first sod in February of 1928. In September the contractors, Bennett and White turned the building over to Superintendent Watson, his staff and 463 high school pupils. The Manual Training School was renamed Bowman School in honor of the early secretary-treasurer. The next May, fire gutted the new Collegiate Building, and during the week-end of May 24, there was an exodus of Collegiate staff and students back to Bowman. Contractor Stubbs immediately started to rebuild the high school.

Although taxes were difficult to collect and unemployed relief was high during the early thirties, the Board began to consider the matter of technical education which had been discontinued early in the war of 1914-18. The former Physical Culture building on Westminster grounds was renovated and a garage to the south of Westminster was rented from the City. Much of the equipment which had been stored for nearly twenty years was put into use. In October of 1934, Miss Cooper took charge of the Domestic Science Department, and J. E. Hawkins began instruction in Motor Mechanics and Electricity.

In February, 1936, J. H. Fleetwood, board member from 1901 until 1912 and secretary-treasurer since 1912 died. Mr. A. J. Watson took over the combined position of Superintendent and Secretary-Treasurer and Mr. D. S. A. Kyle became principal of the Collegiate. At that time, Miss Birch was principal at Galbraith, Mr. James Davidson at Central, Mr. E. C. Brandow at Fleetwood, Mr. K. P. Stewart at Bowman and John Watson at Westminster. Soon after this James Wishart took Miss Birch's position at Galbraith and G. S. Lakie took Mr. Brandow's position at Fleetwood.

When war struck again in 1939, the school system did not suffer the curtailment of services and sharp reductions in salaries that had been the case in the years following 1914. However, men left to join the services: H. S. Baker, T. C. Segsworth, L. H. Blackburne, Eric Johnson, E. R. Borgal, J. P. Watson and George Castles enlisted. School auditoriums were loaned to the Red Cross and to the 20th Battery, to the 18th Garrison, to enlisted men wishing training in Motor Mechanics, Electricity and Typewriting. In March of 1944, the Soviet City of Timoshevskaya was adopted.

By 1945, it had become evident that a junior high school should be established and that a new composite high school should be built in order that the boys and girls of Lethbridge would receive an education comparable to that obtained in other cities.

In October of '46, a by-law to raise \$500,000 was passed; later it was found that an additional \$200,000 would be required. The ratepayers approved of the increased amount and in July of 1948 a contract was entered into with the Bird Construction Co., to build the new Collegiate on the basis of cost plus a fixed fee. Architects Meech, Mitchell and Meech, in consultation with the School Board had planned a school which is termed "composite" in that it makes provision for academic, commercial and technical training.

It became evident, due to the expansion of the school system and the undertaking of a comprehensive building program, that the combined position of Superintendent and Secretary-Treasurer should be discontinued and replaced by an official for each position. In 1949, Mr. L. H. Bussard, M.A., M.Ed., was appointed as Assistant Superintendent and Director of Education, and will assume the full duties of superintendent at the end of the present school year, 1950-51. Mr. Bussard was Superintendent and Secretary-Treasurer of Drumheller for two years, and Summer School lecturer at the University of Alberta.

Because of the rapid expansion of the population of Lethbridge, the Board is now planning two new eight-room elementary schools—one on the corner of Sixth Avenue and Magrath Drive, the other on the Fleetwood grounds.

Lethbridge now has a school system which consists of five elementary schools: Galbraith, Westminster, Bowman, Central and Fleetwood; the new Junior High and the Collegiate with one hundred teachers and 3,000 students. This is the system that has evolved from the efforts of John Craig, H. F. Greenwood and William Stafford, when they placed B. L. Latimer in charge of 30 or more pupils of assorted ages and grades, nearly 65 years ago in the little coal mining and cattle ranching town of Lethbridge, North-West Territories.

Collegiate Activities



1. Physics II Class. 2. Electrical Shop. 3. Junior Home Economics. 4. Chemistry Laboratory. 5. Senior Woodshop. 6. Junior Industrial Arts. 7. Future Bookkeepers. 8. A Lesson in Carpentry. 9. Future Dressmakers. 10. A Social Studies Class.

-:- The New Collegiate -:-

Functional and the beauty of simplicity are the key-notes of the new building. Stretching 280 feet from east to west and 211 feet from north to south, this two-storey brick building is in harmony with the Junior High School to the west and with the new St. Joseph's High School to the east. A gentle slope rises from 5th Avenue to the plate glass entrance. The cornerstone on the left reminds one that on a September afternoon in 1949, W. A. Hamilton, the first Superintendent of City Schools, dedicated this building to the boys and girls of Lethbridge. The front entrance leads to the main east and west halls which, over ninety yards long, combine in beauty the white acoustic tile ceilings, light green travertine plaster walls, gray steel lockers and gray and green terrazzo floors. On the main floor to the right of the main entrance are Principal Kyle's waiting room and office, the library with its rows of reference books, and two classrooms. All rooms facing south are in cool green and blue pastel shades. To the left are the ladies' and men's rest rooms and the chemistry laboratory with its rows of black ebonite tables. Across the hall are four classrooms painted in warm colors which are characteristic of all the rooms facing north. Some of these rooms are fitted as Social Studies rooms with tackboards for clippings and shelves for those periodicals necessary to keep students conversant with changing times. All classroom ceilings, as well as those of the main corridors, have acoustic tile.

On the second floor Vice-Principal Blackbourne has his office alongside the infirmary. On this floor are found nine classrooms. The biology and the physics laboratories are fitted with the equipment peculiar to their type of science. The physics room has an adjoining lecture space with a tiered floor to facilitate demonstration work by the instructor. In all these rooms the light-colored maple flooring harmonizes with the woodwork.

In the basement one finds the Junior High School girls' home economics room with its many cupboards, its work tables and sinks, its gas ranges and its new electrical appliances. Across the corridor is the boiler room with two Vulcan gas fired boilers which in an emergency can be fitted for coal stokers. The music room with its tiered floor, the visual aids room equipped for motion picture projection, and the long rifle range are also located in the basement. These lower rooms are lighted with the same type of fluorescent fixtures and have the same color combinations as have the classrooms of the upper floors.

Immediately across from the main entrance is the combined gymnasium and auditorium, one of the largest in Alberta. The stage with its adjoining property and dressing rooms will permit the presentation of both music and dramatic productions. The suspended projection room on the south wall of the auditorium will facilitate the showing of films. The maple floor measuring 100 by 86 feet is marked for a large basketball court running north and south, two smaller courts at right angles to the larger court, and four badminton courts. During boys and girls physical training periods or when it is

desirable to have two basketball games at the same time, the gymnasium will be divided into two sections by a folding partition, hung from an "I" beam overhead track, and operated by electric motors. Folding bleachers to seat 900 people are fastened to the east and west walls. These seats do not have rollers nor slides to mar the floors; they operate on a telescopic principle whereby all the seats fold below the top seat.

Along the first and second floor corridors to the west of the auditorium are located two home economics rooms. The senior girls' room has the equipment and appliances which will permit more specialized instruction in foods, fabrics and homemaking. Even a built-in bathtub has been provided.

The one-storied north wing provides for six shop rooms which will be used for motor mechanics, electricity, senior woodworking for the senior high school, and general shop for boys of grade seven, eight and nine. These rooms, averaging forty feet square have several unique features. Adjoining each classroom is a two-storied structure which provides a combined drafting and lecture room, one or more storage and tool rooms, and for the shops featuring woodwork, large cupboards where each class may store its projects from week to week. The shops are heated with projection heaters located in a high central position. The electric fans will circulate heated air throughout all the shop areas.

Lighting, heating and ventilation always present a problem in a building of this area. The classroom windows facing south and west are equipped with metal venetian blinds to prevent the glare resulting from the large areas of glass. Those rooms facing north require no such protection; there are no classroom windows facing east. Four suspended fluorescent fixtures in each classroom provide artificial illumination. The steam heating system is fitted with condensate pumps which will permit the circulation of sufficient live steam to heat even those areas most remote from the boiler room. Each classroom has a unit-type ventilator which draws filtered air from the outside. Each of these units has a syncretizer fitted with an automatic electric control which will insure even classroom temperatures. The auditorium has its own hot-air ventilation system which will draw off stale air and circulate fresh air.

Numerous store rooms and well-appointed rest rooms make for efficiency and comfort. The inter-communication system will enable the principal to communicate with any classroom.

Architects Meech, Mitchell and Meech, acting in conjunction with the School Board, Superintendent Watson, Principal Kyle and teachers of the Collegiate staff spent many hours planning the building.

The Bird Construction Company which signed a cost plus a fixed fee contract with the School Board in August of 1948 placed Foreman Morgan in charge. Work has gone steadily forward and now two years later, one of the finest composite high schools in Western Canada has opened its doors to its public, the young people of Lethbridge.

Staff of the Lethbridge Schools





Miss Janet Larson, Miss Effie Reid, Mrs. Hilda Furlong, R.N.; W. L. Kergan, Miss Agnes Short, R.N.; Dr. Margaret O'Meara, Miss Dorothy Cameron.

1. COLLEGIATE—TOP ROW—L. H. Blackbourne, B.Sc., vice-principal; D. S. A. Kyle, B.A., B.Ed., principal; A. W. Rider, W. E. Hansen, B.Sc.; G. R. Castles, B.Sc.; Dr. J. P. Liebe, W. N. Thomas, B.Ed.

MIDDLE ROW—O. B. Eritsland, W. A. Rea, B.A.; R. Turner, B.Sc., B.Ed.; F. A. Rudd, M.A. LLB.; A. M. Fisher, W. L. Neville, B.A.; T. C. Segsworth, B.A.

BOTTOM ROW—Mrs. Mary Waters, B.A.; Miss Charlotte MacEachern, B.A.; Miss Muriel Shortreed, B.Sc.; Miss Marion Davenport, B.A., B.Ed.; Miss Enid Parsons, B.A., B.Ed.; Miss Mary Francis, B.A., B.Ed.; Dr. Isabel Landels.

2. FLEETWOOD—TOP ROW—Mrs. A. W. Rider, Miss Jean Galbraith, Mrs. Ruth Dolan, Mrs. W. J. Ede, Miss Jean Mundie, Miss Gertrude Duffield, Mrs. Phyllis Anderson, Mrs. Jean Watmough.

BOTTOM ROW—Mrs. Doris Cranston, Miss Phyllis Osborne, Miss Helen James, Mrs. Anna Marshall, G. S. Lakie, principal; Mrs. Ruth McKendry, Miss Edith Gilbert, W. C. Stefan, vice-principal.

3. JUNIOR HIGH—TOP ROW—E. J. Magwood, J. G. Stead, A. E. Kuetchach, L. J. McKenzie, B.Ed.; B. R. Jordan, M. T. Sil-lito, B.Ed.; W. J. Gordon, B.Ed.; G. C. Miller, B.A., principal.

MIDDLE ROW—W. J. White, J. A. Whitelaw, M.Sc., B.Ed.; Miss Bessie McCully, Miss Margaret Nimmons, B.Ed.; Miss Ruth Hulland, B.Ed.; George Watson, vice-principal; W. J. Ede, W. J. Cousins, B.A.

BOTTOM ROW—Miss Frances Ost, Miss Verna Gray, Miss Marguerite Esplen, Miss Frances Haney, Miss Anna Kunst, Mrs. Nora Sinclair.

4. BOWMAN—TOP ROW—Miss Rita Goughnour, Miss Margaret Eaglesham, Miss Jean Jackson, B.A.; Miss Pauline Watkins.

BOTTOM ROW—Mrs. Elsie Provan, Miss Amy Stevens, Miss Elizabeth Stott, Miss Agnes Davidson, vice-principal.

5. GALBRAITH—E. J. Pollock, Mrs. Reta Pierson, Miss Ethel Hawthorne, Miss Dorothy Jean McKillop, Miss Joan McGregor, C. A. Larson, principal.

6. WESTMINSTER—TOP ROW—Miss Dagmar Glambeck, Miss Joan Tidy, Miss Audrey Carson, Mrs. Dorothy Hall, Miss Mary Kadlec, Miss Kathleen Frayne, Mrs. Jean Zeman.

BOTTOM ROW—J. M. Wishart, principal; Mrs. Kathleen Scully, Mrs. T. V. Vaughn, Miss Phyllis Rea, Miss Emma Bockovoy, E. R. Knodel, vice-principal.

7. CENTRAL—TOP ROW—Miss Gladys Rollag, Miss Katherine Dunn, Mrs. Ethel Wilmot, Miss Angella Bantin, Miss Margery Rossiter, Mrs. Gladys Dickinson.

BOTTOM ROW—Mrs. Frances Webb, Miss Glenella Hardy, J. P. Watson, principal; Miss Kathleen Mann, Miss Patricia Thom-son, F. J. Clark, B.Ed., vice-principal.

Formal Opening New Central School

Tuesday, April 13th, 1909.

Programme

Part 1

1. Selection by Harper's Juvenile Orchestra.

School Open to Inspection of Public, 3 to 3:30 p.m.

2. Audience gather in Auditorium at 3:30.

3. Address of Welcome

J. H. Fleetwood, Esq.
Chairman Board of Education.

4. Presentation of School Keys by A. Smith, Esq., Contractor, to Chairman School Management Committee

5. Address

W. S. Galbraith, Esq., M.D.
Chairman School Management Committee.



Programme

Part 2

1. Orchestra Selection.

2. Formal Opening and Address

The Honorable A. C. Rutherford
Premier of Alberta.

3. Address

W. A. Hamilton, Esq.
Principal of City Schools.

4. Address

N. K. Beck, Esq., K.C.
Chairman Educational Council

5. God Save The King.

6. Promenade and Refreshments; Orchestra Selections.

4:45 to 6 p.m.

104073

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